



Vol. 5, Issue 15

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photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Spc. Franklin Pipes, personnel information systems management, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, addresses 21 newly inducted NCOs with a Soldiers Request at an NCO induction ceremony, October 9.

Ceremony inducts 21 new NCOs

by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt
Editor, The Voice

No one is more professional than I. That is the phrase that boomed throughout the McGill Recreation Center at Fort Meade, Md., as over 200 non-commissioned officers from the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade gathered to welcome 21 new NCOs into the corps at an NCO induction ceremony, October 9.

"NCOs are recognized by the world as the strength of the United States," said Command Sgt. Maj. Susan Naplachowski, command sergeant major, 742nd MI Battalion. "Welcome to the backbone of the Army."

The ceremony started with every NCO in the building rising and then reciting the NCO creed. Each new sergeant then filed one

by one on stage where they signed the creed side-by-side with Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Wilson, command sergeant major, 704th MI Brigade.

Signing the creed represents the NCOs contract with the corps and their promise to live by and uphold the creed and the standards of the U.S. Army.

The NCO ceremony officially recognizes the induction of a newly promoted NCO into the corps. The ceremony plays an important role in signifying the transition from soldier to leader.

"If there is something that you don't know or understand, someone out of this collective body of NCOs does know and understand; As an NCO corps, we are so strong due to our knowledge, experience and exchange of information for all. We truly depend on one another," said Wilson.

The NCO corps was established in 1778 when Baron Von Stueben recognized the need for leaders to supervise the troops in what is commonly known as the Blue Book.

In his regulations for the order and discipline of the troops of the U.S., Von Stueben wrote: "The choice of an NCO is an object of greatest importance. The order and discipline of a regiment depends so much upon their behavior, that too much care can not be taken in preferring none to that trust, but those who by their merit and good conduct are entitled to it. Honesty, sobriety and a remarkable attention to every point of duty, with neatness in their dress are indispensable requisites. A spirit to command respect and obedience from the men, expertness in performing every part of the exercise and an — go to page 7, NCOs inducted

Brigade commander says Thank You

by Col. Marcus A. Kuiper
704th MI Brigade commander

The old saying, time flies when you're having fun, is definitely true. The July 24 change of command seems like it happened only yesterday and here we are already approaching the holiday season. As



I said that day, you are the finest soldiers and civilians in the best Army in the world, persuasive in peace, invincible in war, and I am truly honored to serve as your commander.

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the welcome my family and I have received from everyone in the brigade, as well as the greater NSA and Fort Meade community. It has been fantastic and we are truly glad to be here.

I also want to let you know that since July, I have been overwhelmed by the untiring dedication, professionalism, loyalty, and outstanding spirit of teamwork that I have seen throughout the brigade.

Our motto, *Here and Everywhere*, certainly holds true as brigade soldiers are deployed throughout the world supporting critical operations. I'll do my best to meet everyone, but given our many unique missions and locations around the globe, unfortunately I may be unable to meet some of you face-to-face. But I know your chain of command will be reaching out and making sure that you and your families are being well taken care of.

Many of our deployments are directly connected to the global war against terrorism. Much like the Cold War, this war will be a long one, however each day the contributions provided by our brigade move it one step closer to coming to an end. Last September, the world changed. I was working in my office at the Pentagon on that day, only a few feet from

the point of impact, and knew at that moment that our duties and responsibilities would take on new urgency and importance. Keep up the hard work and determination.

Along with the many changes brought about by 9-11, our brigade is also undergoing a major transformation. As you all know, after extensive study and analysis, the brigade's transformation plan is now in the execution phase. We are moving soldiers across the NSA to better meet the new demands of emerging threats at the tactical, strategic, and operational levels in the post 9-11 / post cold-war world and to support the nation's fight against terrorism.

As we begin to move into the holiday season, to include the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, please keep safety in mind at all times. Listen to your commanders and first sergeants when they brief you on safety. We need you, and our country needs you at this critical time in history. You make a difference.

HERE AND EVERYWHERE

Gen. Richard Myers reflects on One Year Anniversary of War on Terrorism

This week, we marked the first anniversary of the start of our combat operations against terrorism. The foundation for our success is no secret. The credit belongs to you who serve as part of our armed forces: our sailors, soldiers, airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, DoD civilians and our military families.

Over the past year, I've visited hundreds of you overseas and around the United States. You are dedicated and determined. You have left your homes, your families and, in the case of our Guard and Reserve personnel, you left your jobs. Your service is an example of selflessness and sacrifice.

Those of you that I've met are no different from the hundreds of thousands of others nobly serving at home and abroad. All are doing the extraordinary.

Over this past year, our Nation's armed forces have achieved a significant measure of success in the War on Terrorism. A year

ago at this time, few predicted the speed or the effectiveness with which we would eliminate the major terrorist haven in Afghanistan. It was a land-locked country. We had no military bases in the vicinity. We had no major war plan to remove the Taliban from power.

Then, twenty-seven days after the terrorists struck our nation, this joint team unleashed a powerful and lethal campaign. Two months later, our men and women, in concert with our allies and friends, freed Afghanistan. With the help of the international community, we also helped avert a massive famine.

This campaign has been one for the record books. It included the deepest amphibious operation in our Marine Corps history. It included the highest elevation that our soldiers fought a pitched battle at 10,000 feet above sea level. It included the longest combat sortie on record for our Air Force. It was 44 hours in length. Most significant of all, it entailed the fewest war-

combatant injuries and the least collateral damage of any major military operation in history.

It was the first time we employed the C-17 in a medium threat environment to airdrop supplies. It was the first time we shared simultaneously a video picture from an unmanned aerial vehicle with the headquarters and the aircrew over the target. No other nation can operate such advanced technology as our armed forces.

While these examples reflect how technology has changed, the most important factor remains the incredible talent and dedication of our men and women in uniform. You who serve. Your adaptability and agility, your courage and character, your discipline and determination, are legendary.

You tackle unpredictable challenges in innovative ways. You make things happen in a dynamic environment. Many of you are 19 and 20 years old. Yet you display the maturity and competence usually associated with much

more seasoned troops. You're the driving force in our success.

Our families serve superbly. They provide incredible strength for us all. They endure with patience and grace through extended hours and long periods of separation. Our families deserve our deepest gratitude.

In this war on terrorism, there is more ahead of us than behind us. Three things remain constant.

First, the survival of our nation, our liberties and our way of life will continue to be at risk. Second, our nation will continue to call upon your talents and professionalism. Third, I am confident that you are up to the task. You will respond as our Armed Forces always have, with courage, honor and sacrifice.

I am privileged to serve with you. May God bless you and your families.

May God bless America.



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Commander
704th MI BDE
ATTN: IAMS-PAO (Editor, The Voice)
Fort Meade, MD 20755-5930
DSN 622-0173
Commercial (301) 677-0173

U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command 704th Military Intelligence Brigade

Commander
Col. Marcus A. Kuiper

Command Sergeant Major
Command Sgt. Major Randy Wilson

Public Affairs Officer
Ben Wigney

Public Affairs NCOIC / Editor
Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Graphic Artist
Sgt. Anishka Forbes



704th MI Brigade Mission

The 704th Military Intelligence Brigade conducts continuous full-spectrum signals intelligence, computer network and information security operations directly, and through NSA to satisfy National, Joint, Combined and Army information superiority requirements.

Focus

To ensure mission accomplishment in an ethical environment while providing opportunities for individual professional growth and satisfaction, we must have:

- Competent and caring leaders,
- Well trained and fit soldiers,
- Efficient, effective unit operations,
- Unit cohesion and pride,
- Planned, orderly growth and change.

Deployed soldiers rest easier with FRGs

FRGs act as the focal point for information between families and soldiers of Enduring Freedom

BY JOE BURLAS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

BAGRAM, Afghanistan-- While thousands of Reserve and active-duty soldiers are deployed in the Central Command area of operations as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, their families are being well cared for and kept informed.

That observation was made by more than a dozen soldiers in Uzbekistan and Afghanistan when Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki visited the area.

The only concern a group of 17 enlisted troops breakfasting with Shinseki at an undisclosed location in Uzbekistan voiced was that their families wanted to know when they would return home. At the same time, they said both they and their families were proud of what they were doing as part of Enduring Freedom far from home. The soldiers also said their unit

family readiness groups were a great help to their spouses.

Shinseki acknowledged that not knowing when they could expect to return home was a valid concern and promised to get an answer back to them soon.

Family support groups first started appearing in the early 1990s when thousands of National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers were called to active duty to support the Gulf War. Many reserve-component units were initially overwhelmed by phone calls from family members seeking services the Army offered but spouses didn't know how to access. Once established, unit FSGs acted as a focal point to pass that information on and information between deployed soldiers and their families.

The Senior Army leadership has recently started to call these unit groups family readiness groups. Shinseki explained the rationale behind the name change at a Spouse

Orientation and Leadership Development meeting held in Washington, D.C., in February. The term 'readiness' stresses the need for units to be proactive in preparing soldiers and their families for the possibility of deployment, rather than reactionary when a deployment occurs,' Shinseki said.

For Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Denegall, a supply support activity noncommissioned-officer-in-charge with the 5-30th Supply and Support Battalion at Bagram Airfield, a well-functioning unit FRG back at home means his unit gets video-taped messages from loved ones at least once a month. It also means his wife has a reliable network of others in similar circumstances to fall back on if she needs help at home, he said.

'My wife and daughter are very proud of what I am doing over here,' Denegall said. 'They know I am doing fine because I get to talk with them on the phone several times a

week. My wife also knows I am doing fine because she attends family (readiness) group luncheons and meetings where they discuss how we are doing.'

Knowing that his unit FRG is there for his family, Denegall said, allows him to enjoy what he thinks is his greatest achievement in a 21-year Army career -- training new troops who have never worked in a supply support activity to support warfighters conducting real combat missions.

Cpl. Jamaison Pilgreen, a Firefinder radar specialist with the 2-15th Field Artillery Battalion at Bagram said his wife gets calls from his unit's FRG but hasn't attended any of its functions yet.

'She is pretty independent -- she works and lived by herself for five years before we got married,' Pilgreen said. 'Still, it's nice to know the family (readiness) group is there if she needs it.'



Run Me, Run Me, Run Me Some More

photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Members of the 704th MI Brigade command staff, led by Col. Marcus A. Kuiper, brigade commander, lead an early morning brigade run through the streets of Fort Meade.

Chaplain's Corner: Be Real

by Maj. David Causey
Brigade Chaplain

Phony. Imposter. Hypocrite. We all know what the words mean. The very mention of the word "imposter" probably brings someone to mind — someone who pretends to be someone better, more interesting, more significant than he or she actually is.



Does anyone remember Rosie Ruiz? In 1980 she was heralded as the world-record-breaking woman's Boston Marathon champion — for a day or so. Then it was discovered that Rosie had hopped aboard public transportation early in the race and hopped off near the finish line. She crossed the finish line ahead of every other woman in record time. An investigation disclosed she had taken a similar shortcut in a previous New York Marathon. Besides being a cheat, Rosie pretended to be a marathon champion, relishing all the glory she never earned.

Our world abounds with such pretenders. More than twenty years since his death, Elvis Presley still has many men impersonating him. They steal some of the King's glow to enjoy the limelight they are not willing to work for and conceal the barrenness of their own lives.

There have also been many outlaw impersonators. Historically, Jesse James seems to have been a favorite with imposters. One James-

pretender, who hadn't done his homework, rolled into a Kentucky town to ply his trade — a town in which the James Gang had robbed a bank many years before. A U.S. Marshal confronted the imposter, pulled a yellowed document from his pocket and declared: "I have here a warrant for your arrest, charging you with the robbery of the Bank of Columbia and the murder of the cashier." When the imposter turned pale, the Marshal added: "However, on the chance that you may not be the real Jesse James, I'm giving you ten minutes to get out of town." The man was gone in five.

But of all imposters, the worst may have been the "Great Pretender" himself — Ferdinand Waldo Demara. Without training, academic degrees, credentials, ordination or a commission, Demara pretended to be (and received payment as) a surgeon, psychologist, college dean, dentist, university professor, Naval officer, and a Trappist monk. Demara's phony life finally caught up with him and landed him an 18-month prison sentence, one of the few things in life he actually earned.

Maybe we should add some of our own names to the list of phonies. How many of us relish the name "soldier" yet do not share the Army's values of selfless service, courage and integrity? How many wear a starched uniform and spit-shined boots, yet scheme to avoid the sacrifices, training, and hardship our duty requires? Far too many, I fear. Far too many do everything to serve and protect themselves in a profession that may require them to lay down their lives.

Then there are the religious imposters among us — those who profess God's name, yet make little effort to live according to His rules. The Scripture

reminds us, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord abstain from wickedness." (2 Timothy 2:19)

704th Unit Ministry Team at Ft. Meade

Activities

704th Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 1130-1245

At 741st BN Conference Room

FREE Anthony's Pizza and Soft Drinks

Contemporary Protestant Worship Service
Cavalry Chapel, Corner of 6th Cavalry & Simmons
Sundays, 1045

704th Unit Ministry Team

"The God Squad"

Chaplain (Maj.) David Causey (301)677-7521

Spc. Robert Apger (301)677-7521

Bldg. 9828, Rm. 152

743rd MI at Buckley Air Force Base

Religious Services

Protestant

Sunday Worship, 1000 in Mod #1, Bldg. #T-10

Singles Wednesday Bible Study, 1700 in

Mod#1 Bldg. #T-10

Wednesday Bible Study in ADF, 1800 in ADF

Conference Room C

Catholic

Saturday Confession, 1430 in MOD #1,

Bldg. #T-10

Saturday Mass, 1500 at MOD #1, Bldg. #T-10

743rd On-Site Chaplain

Chaplain (LTC) Steven Hess

(303)677-6411

Offices Located In:

Mod #1, Bldg. #T-10 & Rm. 1356-A in ADF

743rd rafts down the untamed Colorado River

by Capt. Shane Carroll
743rd MI Battalion

At the heart of every great fighting organization is the collective will to stand up and enter the struggle of hard-fought battle. This force is as critical to an infantry battalion as it is to a military intelligence battalion seeking the enemy around the world.

Soldiers of the 743rd MI Battalion demonstrate that mentality each and every day as they conduct their crucial world-wide mission. Even when they find the time for some much needed rest, their competitive spirit continues.

This summer, one such instance put the battalion in the Rocky Mountains to brave the rapids of the Colorado River.

The day began early at battalion headquarters where everyone began loading up the van with camping gear, beverages and food. Once underway, Maj. David Causey,

brigade chaplain, 704th MI Brigade, gave some inspiring words to the rafters as they traveled through the mountains towards the untamed Colorado River.

The whitewater rafting trip is part of Causey's spiritual fitness training program that is open to everyone in the brigade and is at no cost to the soldiers.

Upon arrival, the group immediately took to the river. However, the rapids were extremely slow due to the drought the area was experiencing.

This did not stop the soldiers from getting a heart-pounding adventure. To make up for the inactivity of the river, one boat of soldier's began to board and commandeer the other boats by tossing the rafters into the river.

This aggressive act began to spread like wildfire, pitting captains against majors and staff sergeants against civilians. Even the river guides jumped into the boat duels. When



photo by Capt. Shane Carroll

Soldiers of the 743rd MI Battalion get ready to embark on a whitewater rafting adventure down the Colorado River. The whitewater rafting trip is part of Maj. David Causey's, brigade chaplain, 704th MI Brigade, spiritual fitness training program.

one of the guides was asked if this ever happens, the guide explained this was definitely a first.

After the hard-fought day of boarding and commandeering, the

river guides invited the soldiers for a meal at their home base. Camp was soon setup and everyone rested for the night in preparation for another adventure.

704th celebrates Hispanic Heritage month

by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt
Editor, *The Voice*

The 704th Military Intelligence Brigade and Fort Meade, Md., celebrated Hispanic American Heritage Month, September 15 through October 15, with a cook off competition, a catered luncheon and personal stories of the Hispanic influence on America yesterday and today.

The celebration for Fort Meade began with a luncheon at the McGill Recreation Center where everyone on post was invited for a catered lunch of enchiladas and stuffed jalapenos. In addition, the crowd was entertained by personal stories of the Hispanic culture.

Hispanic Americans have worked not only towards a unified Hispanic society, but unified as Americans and as one American society, said Lt. Col. Dennis Young, garrison headquarters battalion commander, Fort Meade.

Hispanic American month is embedded not only in the military, but also in our schools and our entire society, said Young. Hispanic Americans have served with heroism during every U.S. conflict. Thirty-eight have received the medal of honor.

The celebrations continued later in the week for the 704th MI Brigade as they celebrated in their own way. Soldiers brought in their favorite dishes and each



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Lt. Col. Anthony Wenger, deputy commander, 704th MI Brigade, and Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Wilson, command sergeant major, 704th MI Brigade, taste dishes brought by soldiers in celebration of Hispanic Heritage month.



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Pfc. Roxana Acevedo, 704th MI Brigade, explains her personal experience as a Hispanic American at the 704th MI Brigade Hispanic American Heritage Celebration. Acevedo is the first person in her families generation to be born in the U.S.

dish was judged by not only taste, but appearance as well.

The winners of the cook-off were: first place, Spc. Jeremy Herrera for his tantalizing chicken enchiladas; second place, 1st Sgt. Cynthia Woods for her cheese enchiladas with red sauce; and third place, Staff Sgt. James O'Neil for his green chile enchiladas.

After the cook-off, the crowd of soldiers listened to a personal story from Pfc. Roxana Acevedo's experience as a Hispanic American.

I'm the oldest of my generation and I am the first person in my generation to be born in the United States. My goal has always been to set the example, said Acevedo.

There is more to Hispanic Heritage than just the food, said Lt. Col. Anthony Wenger, deputy commander, 704th MI Brigade. What they have done for our country and society is what we are celebrating today.



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

Soldiers of the 704th MI Brigade enjoy a hearty feast of Hispanic food during the Hispanic Heritage celebration.

Responsibility of Retention

by Staff Sgt. Shelly R. Demetrelis
743rd MI Battalion

Who is responsible for the retention program? The standard answer you will get from most soldiers is the career counselor, a.k.a. the reenlistment non-commissioned officer, a.k.a. the REUP guy. This answer is partially correct. The career counselor is responsible for maintaining the commanders Retention Program and keeping the command informed of all changes to policies and incentive messages.

In accordance with Army Regulation 601-280, Army Retention Program, the Army Retention Program is a commander's program. To be truly effective, efforts to retain high quality soldiers, our future NCO Corps, requires the enthusiastic involvement of all leaders. I'll ask the question again. Who is responsible for the retention program? Your answer should change. The commander and all leaders are responsible for the retention program.

Way out here in Denver, at the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion, we garner the support of all our leaders when it comes to retention. From the battalion commander to the most junior private, everyone is involved in the retention process. As a career counselor, I have heard many different reasons why people reenlist. The one that sticks out in my mind goes right back to what I am speaking of—leaders.

A sergeant was unsure of what he wanted to do. He liked the Army and loved his job, but wanted to weigh all his options in the civilian world. After months of deliberation, the sergeant called me and told me he was ready to reenlist. I asked him what made up his mind. He told me his story.

The sergeant was counseling a young private first class in his squad. The soldier had some personal issues that he was working through with the help of his leaders. When the counseling session was finished, the junior soldier asked the sergeant if he was going to stay in the Army. The sergeant replied that he had not yet made up his

mind. The soldier then told the sergeant that he should stay in the Army because he was a great NCO. The soldier said, "I hope one day when I become a non-commissioned officer, I can help people and be a good leader like you."

That was the end of the story from the sergeant. What finally made up his mind was the young Pfc. The sergeant said, "I knew all along I was going to reenlist. I just needed to be reminded of what is the most important part of my job—being a leader."

One more time I'll ask the question, "Who is responsible for the retention program?" All soldiers are! You never know what difference you might make in someone's life.

As always, special thanks are extended to everyone for engaging this fight on terrorism and for "Keeping Our Soldiers in BOOTZ!" Remember, **Retention** is everyone's **Business**!

704TH Retention Team

704TH MI Brigade

Sgt. 1st Class Willene Orr
(301) 677-0164

741st MI Battalion

Sgt. 1st Class Kirkland K. Thomas
(310) 677-0157

742nd MI Battalion

Staff Sgt. Joseph Collins, Jr.
(301) 677-0117

743rd MI Battalion

Staff Sgt. Shelly R. Demetrelis
(303) 677-5048

News from around the 704th

Bach assumes role as new Big Dog



courtesy photo

1st Sgt. William Bach first entered the military in 1982 with the Ohio Army National Guard. In October 1983, he entered active military service as a Morse intercept operator. Bach comes to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade from the United States Army Recruiting Battalion in Columbus, Ohio, with duty at the University of Dayton Army ROTC where he held the position of senior military instructor. He is also a graduate of the Army Airborne, Jumpmaster, Air Assault and Fast Rope Master Schools. Bach is accompanied by his wife and his two children.

Mohler takes over Alpha company



photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt

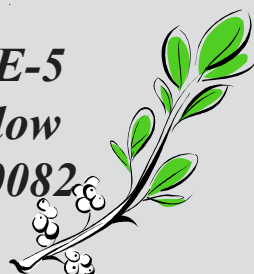
Capt. Douglas Mohler took command of Company A, 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th MI Brigade, on September 26, 2002. Mohler took command from outgoing commander Capt. Mark Pralat. Mohler was commissioned into the Army on May 14, 1994, from ROTC. He was previously assigned as an operations officer to the Army Technical Control and Analysis Element (ATCAE), 742nd MI Battalion, Fort Meade, Md. Mohler has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. Mohler is also a graduate of the Army Airborne and Ranger Schools.



Colonel Marcus A. Kuiper
Commander
Military Intelligence Brigade
cordially invites you to attend the
2002 Holiday Ball

on Friday, the sixth of December at 1800 hours
at the Turf Valley Resort,
Elicott City, Maryland

Menu is Buffet style for \$30.00 for E-5
and above and \$15 for E-4 and below
POC is Capt. Ianozi at (301) 677-0082



NCOs Inducted...from page 1

ability to teach it are also absolutely necessary. To wrap up the emotional ceremony for the new NCOs, Spc. Franklin Pipes, personnel information systems management, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th MI Brigade, entered the room cloaked head to toe in camouflage and he addressed the new NCOs with a Soldiers Request.

“Sergeant, treat me with respect. For no heart in all the world is more loyal than the heart of an American soldier. Sergeant, train me, so that one day I too can be called sergeant, trainer of soldiers, the backbone of the Army. Train me to accept those responsibilities that are yours, train me to train my soldiers to be the greatest defenders of freedom in the world. Sergeant, train me, so that I too can earn the title sergeant,” said Pipes.

“The rank you have earned has made you different than the privates and specialist,” said Naplachowski. “You are leaders!”

New sergeants in the Brigade

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Sgt. Sean Anderson (741st) | Sgt. Daniel Rojas (741st) |
| Sgt. Jason Broome (742nd) | Sgt. John Rosenblatt (742nd) |
| Sgt. Michael Caves (741st) | Sgt. Christopher Rudy (HHC) |
| Sgt. Stephen Cole (741st) | Sgt. Richard Sanchez (741st) |
| Sgt. Stephanie Cruz (742nd) | Sgt. Jonathan Sowder (741st) |
| Sgt. Jovan Deloach (HHC) | Sgt. Antonio Trentacoste (741st) |
| Sgt. Howard Fontana-Smith | Sgt. Antonio Verduzco (741st) |
| Sgt. Rachel Giese (741st) | Sgt. Justin Waterstraat (741st) |
| Sgt. Christine Grover (741st) | Sgt. Arlene Welch (741st) |
| Sgt. Samuel Mason (741st) | Sgt. Taiari Zimmerman (741st) |
| Sgt. Nicole Nelson (741st) |   |



Non-commissioned officers of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade stand during the reading of the NCO Creed during an NCO Induction Ceremony, which inducted 21 new NCOs into the NCO Corps. The ceremony officially recognizes the induction of a newly promoted NCO into the corps and signifies the transition from soldier to leader.

The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of soldiers. As a Non-Commissioned Officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as “The Backbone of the Army.” I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the Military Service and my country regardless of the situation

in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety. Competence is my watch-word. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind—accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my soldiers. I will strive to remain tactically and technically proficient. I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned Officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my soldiers and never leave them

uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment. Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, Noncommissioned Officers, leaders!

Around the Army

Wind to power up Army posts near capital

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — The Army is helping to decrease the country's dependency on foreign oil by committing to use wind-generated electricity as a partial source of power for buildings in the Washington, D.C., and Maryland areas.

The Army is the first service to make the groundbreaking purchase, which will provide power needs of up to 8 percent to Walter Reed Army Medical Center campuses and Fort McNair in the District of Columbia and the Adelphi Labs in Maryland.

"The Army is a major energy consumer, and it's important for us to lead the way by investing in our country and its future," said John Nerger, the director of Facilities and Housing for the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management.

By harnessing renewable energy, such as wind and solar energy, the Army isn't necessarily saving money, Nerger said. Currently, it's slightly more expensive than buying coal for fuel, he said. However, wind-generated electricity will help the Army meet its objective of reducing energy consumption by 35 percent by the year 2010, helping to make the country more energy secure.

"From the early 1970s to the year 2000, our dependence on foreign oil has grown from a third of what we consume to a half," Nerger said. "By 2020 it has been projected that about two out of three barrels of oil that the country needs will come from foreign sources. So anything that this country can produce on its own reduces what we need from others."

Standing 228 feet tall with three 115-foot-tall blades are pollution-free wind turbines that are scheduled to provide electricity to the Capital Region in December. There will be 44 turbines built in West Virginia, about three hours west of Washington, D.C.

A wind turbine uses rotor blades, a power shaft and a generator to convert the wind's kinetic energy into electrical energy. The wind makes the blades spin causing the rotary motion to drive the generator producing electricity.



Wind turbine farms will help meet the Army's objective of reducing energy consumption 35 percent by the year 2010. The Army is the first service to purchase wind turbines and they will first be built for buildings in the Washington D.C., and Maryland areas.

The generator can make electricity with wind speeds of 5 mph, and optimum speeds for power are between 25 and 35 mph, stated a "green power" fact sheet. Green power is the term used for electricity generated by renewable energy sources. The wind turbine can operate in wind speeds as high as 55 mph. When the wind speed exceeds 55 mph, an internal computer shuts the equipment down.

When the wind blows too hard or not hard enough, there are

batteries that store a modest amount of electricity. The Army installations in the Capital Region won't have to worry about wind speeds because the percentage of power the wind turbines will be generating is so low, said Satish K. Sharma, the chief of the Utilities and Energy Branch for ACSIM.

Over time, however, the Army may increase the percentage of power it obtains from West Virginia, Nerger said. Also, other installations will most likely take advantage of the power source

when it becomes available in their areas, he added.

"The Army's goal is to transform into a lighter, more mobile force, and renewable energy plays a part in that. One day equipment will be deployed without the need for a huge fuel supply," Nerger said. "Today we have generators that operate from solar power."

The wind-generated electricity in the Capital Region will be provided by Washington Gas Energy Services, which is the first to offer the service in the area.

courtesy photo

Around the Army

Survey shows job satisfaction on the rise

ALEXANDRIA, Va (Perscom News Release) Soldiers' satisfaction with job security, retirement benefits and basic pay is increasing, according to the Army's latest poll.

The U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, known as ARI, conducts the Sample Survey of Military Personnel each spring and fall to provide Army leaders with information to assess soldier and family well-being.

From spring 2001 to spring 2002, soldiers' satisfaction with their jobs and quality of life has improved significantly for about half of the 58 satisfaction items measured.

It is important for soldiers to know that Army leadership listens to soldiers concerns, said Dr. Zita Simutis, the acting director of ARI. Although these SSMP findings are encouraging for the Army, SSMP results are also used to identify issues that the Army needed to address.

When asked Based on your Army experience, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with job security, retirement benefits and amount of basic pay; soldiers participating in the survey answered using a four-point scale, ranging from very satisfied to very dissatisfied. The percentages of soldiers who were satisfied or very satisfied are shown for three years over a 10-year period.

Personal morale and perceptions of unit morale also improved significantly among enlisted soldiers, and are on a slight upward slope for officers.

Congress has responded to the Army by providing significantly larger pay raises than those in the mid 1990s. The change in the retirement system enacted in 1999 also helped to reverse the trend of growing dissatisfaction, personnel officials said. They said changes in TRICARE and the privatization of housing have also made a difference in quality of life for soldiers.

The Army is doing a lot to improve the quality of life for soldiers and their families, officials said. Although it is still in the developmental stages, the Army's well-being initiative will track quality of life issues and identify when and where changes need to be made. The Army Staff has developed 50 functions to organize services and programs that contribute to well being and readiness.

Approximately 8,600 soldiers completed the most recent SSMP. Army-wide samples of 10 percent of officers and 20 percent of enlisted personnel who are permanent party and available for duty are selected for the survey, using the final digits of soldiers' social security numbers. Although the survey booklets are serially numbered, the responses cannot be tracked back to individuals. Only group statistics are reported.

The Army began polling soldiers in 1943 with the Personnel Survey of the Army, according to Dr. Morris Peterson, chief of the Army Personnel Survey Office at ARI. The survey was renamed the Sample Survey of Military Personnel in 1958.

By getting results twice a year on the 58 quality of life and job satisfaction measures, we can help top Army leaders keep a finger on the pulse of active-duty Army, Peterson said. When attitudes change, we tell Army leaders about the changes as soon as we can.

<u>And, the Survey Says!</u>			
Job Security			
	1993	1998	2002
Enlisted	56%	67%	84%
Officers	46%	64%	87%
Retirement Benefits			
	1993	1998	2002
Enlisted	44%	29%	56%
Officers	55%	36%	65%
Basic Pay			
	1993	1998	2002
Enlisted	35%	29%	38%
Officers	61%	58%	64%

New DoD web site explains military pay and allowances

WASHINGTON (American Forces Press Service) Anything you ever wanted to know about your military pay but didn't know who to ask is now available with a couple of mouse clicks on the new DoD military compensation web site.

The site explains the differences between pay and allowances and describes the intended purpose of various allowances. For instance, the Basic Allowance for Subsistence is designed to offset the costs of a member's meals, but is not intended to offset the costs of meals for family members.

A separate Basic Allowance for Housing primer available on the site explains the ins and outs of BAH, including how it is computed and why rates can differ so much from one location to another.

A link to the Regular Military Compensation Calculator can give servicemembers a glimpse of how their pay and tax-free allowances stack up against civilian pay. For instance, a soldier at pay grade E-6 with eight years of service living in the Washington, D.C., area with a spouse and two children would have to earn more than \$51,000 to take home the same amount after state and federal taxes are deducted.

Active duty members approaching their 15th year of service might find the retirement choice calculator particularly helpful. Members who



entered active service after July 31, 1986, have to choose at 15 years whether they'll opt for the high-three or redux retirement plans. High-three basically pays 50 percent of the average of a soldier's three highest paying years of service.

Redux pays a \$30,000 bonus at 15 years, then 40 percent of base pay per month at retirement. Both have positive and negative points, and servicemembers need to choose based on their

personal situations. A calculator on this site allows you to input personal data and then gives you charts to show how much each option would provide you over 40-year period.

Other sections on this site fully explain survivor benefits and the Thrift Savings Plan.

To check out the military compensation web site, go to:
<http://military.pay.dtic.mil/pay/index.html>

Around Town



Authentic Bavarian dancers perform a polka dance for a captive audience at Blob's Park in Jessup, Md. The German style fest occurs every weekend and it's open to the public.

Germany in your backyard

compiled by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt
Editor, *The Voice*

What if you could visit Germany without taking a nine hour plane ride across the pond? Blob's Park in Jessup, Md., gives you a taste of the Bavarian lifestyle and it's only a ten minute drive from the Mapes gate on Fort Meade, Md.

Blob's Park is an authentic Bavarian Biergarten featuring homecooked German style foods and German beers on draft. It is open every weekend with live Polka Bands and dancing on a huge 2,000 square foot wooden dance floor.

Admission to Blob's Park is only \$4.00 per person and it is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays year round.

To get to Blob's Park make a left on to Route 175 from Mapes gate on Fort Meade. Drive for about ten minutes and make a left on Max Blobs Park Road. Follow the road around until you see a large white German style building on the left hand side of the road.

For more information, go to the Blob's Park website at www.blobspark.com



Children and parents alike get involved in the festivities at Blob's Park in Jessup, Md. with the Chicken Dance.

SAFETY BRIEF

by Patti Shelley
Safety Officer

Hunting season begins in many areas around the country this month. So to be safe during this time, the Ten Commandments of Firearms Safety should be reviewed and etched into everyone's memory forever. Let the following safety practices govern your actions wherever and whenever you're involved with firearms: in the woods, on the range, or in your home.

I. Don't rely on your gun's safety.



Treat every gun as if it can fire at any time, whether or not there's pressure on the trigger. Your firearm has been carefully designed to maximize performance and safety. However, a gun's safety is a mechanical device and, like any mechanical device, it could fail.

Human error is a more likely reason for a gun safety to fail. By mistake, you may think the safety is on when it really isn't; or the safety may have been disengaged without your knowledge; or you could think your gun is unloaded when there's actually a cartridge or shell

in it. A gun's safety is not a substitute for common sense. It's merely a supplement to your proper handling of a firearm.

Don't touch the trigger until you are ready to shoot. Keep your fingers away from the trigger when you're loading or unloading. Don't pull the trigger when the safety is engaged or positioned anywhere between safe and fire.

Read your instruction manual to understand the exact location and operation of your firearm's safety. Even when the safety is on, maintain control of your loaded firearm and control the direction of the muzzle. In other words, don't rely on your safety to justify careless handling. If your firearm's internal mechanisms are broken or have been altered, your firearm may fire even when the safety is on. Remember, you and your safe gun handling practices are your gun's best safety.

II. Firearms should be unloaded when not in use.

Load your firearm only when you're in the field or on the target range and ready to fire. Never let a loaded gun out of your sight or out of your hands. Unload it as soon as you're finished shooting and before you bring it into your car, camp, or home. Remember, unloading your firearm means unloading it completely, so there is no ammunition in the chamber or in the magazine.

Before handling a firearm or passing it to someone else, visually check the

chamber, receiver, and magazine to be certain they do not contain ammunition. Always keep the gun's action open when not in use. Never assume a gun is unloaded even if you were the last person to use it. Always check for yourself.

Let common sense rule when you carry a loaded gun. If you're in any situation that could risk accidental discharge such as crossing a fence, wading through a stream, or climbing a tree, always unload your gun. Never pull or push a loaded firearm toward yourself or another person. Never carry a loaded gun in a scabbard, detached holster, or gun case.

III. Use proper ammunition.

Every firearm is designed to use a certain caliber or gauge of ammunition. Using the wrong ammunition, mixing ammunition, or using improperly reloaded ammunition can cause serious personal injury or death. It only takes one cartridge or shell, of the incorrect caliber or gauge or a shell that has been improperly reloaded, to destroy your firearm.

As a gun owner, it's your responsibility to make sure the ammunition you use exactly matches the caliber or gauge of your gun. Refer to the instruction manual to find out the specific requirements of your firearm. Always read and heed the instructions on ammunition boxes. Confusing shells or cartridges can cause serious personal injury or death and destroy your firearm. Examine your shells

and cartridges closely and use only the precise caliber or gauge for your specific firearm.

IV. Learn the mechanical and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.

Not all guns are alike. They have different mechanical characteristics that dictate how you should carry and handle them. Anyone who plans to use a firearm should first become totally familiar with the type of firearm it is and the safe handling procedures for its loading, unloading, carrying, shooting, and storing.

Before you even unpack a firearm, read the instruction manual from cover to cover and familiarize yourself with the different component parts of the gun. Then read, understand, and follow the commandments of safety.

V. Shoot Sober

This is the other rule that must be followed when handling firearms. In fact, respect for this rule is necessary in order to effectively practice the Ten Commandments of Firearm Safety.

Alcohol, drugs, and guns are a deadly combination. Never consume anything that would even mildly impair your judgment or physical coordination when you're using a firearm. A staggering percentage of the shooting accidents that occur every year involve alcohol or drugs.

Be smart: shoot sober and stay alive.

CIVILIAN'S CORNER

by Sam Jones
Brigade Senior Civilian

Brand new FEHB option for the upcoming open season
www.definityhealth.com

If you could build a better health plan, what would it include? How about starting with a large nationwide network with over 450,000 doctors. Then, take away things that don't make sense and no office or drug co-payments and no referrals required for specialists. Now add a Personal Care Account with benefit dollars provided for you to manage and you choose how to use these funds given your health needs. For 2003, a health plan just like this is available to Federal and Postal employees through the APWU Health Plan's Consumer-driven Option. The Personal Care Account covers the first \$1,000 (single) or \$2,000 (family) of healthcare services paid at 100% even prescription drugs. Personal Care Account benefit dollars not used in a year roll over to the next year. Cap it off with a wealth of resources and both online and over the phone to support your healthcare decisions, including an exclusive partnership with Johns Hopkins to bring you the very best in health and wellness information.

Discover a new direction in healthcare with the APWU Health Plan Consumer-driven Option. To learn more, please visit www.definityhealth.com, click on iLogging In and enter User ID: APWUHP, Password: HPINFO.

TSP Catch-ups could begin next year

Catch-up contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan for investors age 50 and older could begin as early as the TSP open season starting next April, if the Senate as expected joins the House in passing legislation (HR-3340) allowing



such contributions. The bill would allow contributions for those investors over and above any dollar cap or percentage of salary investment limits applying to them of \$2,000 in 2003, \$3,000 in 2004, \$4,000 in 2005 and \$5,000 in 2006, with the amounts afterward adjusted for inflation. The catch-up contributions would have to be made through payroll withholding that is how pre-tax investments are generated and the TSP has determined that it is too late to make the needed arrangements in the current open season, which runs through December 31.

Leadership of Civilians During Times of Crises - A Word from the ADCSINT.

The current challenges each of us now face are enormous and often daunting but we cannot ignore any of our responsibilities. One of our most important is our responsibility to our troops and our civilian employees. We must continue to give high priority to their supervision and development. This means we must find the means to continue to ensure they are mentored, held accountable and promoted and rewarded in a timely and fair manner. We must also ensure that they continue to receive the training and development that is required by their positions, their disciplines, and our Army Civilian Training, Education and Development System (ACTEDS) plan. I urge commanders, senior intelligence officers and all supervisors, military as well as civilian, to redouble their efforts. I urge careerists to maintain their high level of engagement with both their command's objectives and their career development. Continue to work with your supervisors to do the right thing. Terrance Ford

Raise, COLA: Two Separate Issues

The annual announcement of the retiree COLA commonly raises a question among active employees: what effect does that have on the upcoming year's raise? The answer, in a word, is none. The determination of the COLA for retirees and of the pay raise for active employees are separate issues and

have no direct relationship to each other. COLAs for retirees are set automatically according to the change in the average consumer price index from one third calendar quarter to the next; the only exception is that some COLAs have been delayed or denied for budgetary reasons in past years. Raises for active employees are set in the annual congressional budget process and are not linked to cost-of-living; to an extent they are linked instead to the employment cost index, a measure of changes in labor markets, not of inflation. Part of the confusion arises because some active employees refer to their raises as COLAs, while some retirees refer to their COLAs as raises.

Final word on raise still unspoken

A final decision on the January 2003 federal raise likely will not be made until late November or in December due to continued deadlock on Capitol Hill over spending priorities for the budgetary year that started October 1. Since that time agencies have been operating under a series of stopgap spending measures called continuing resolutions. The most recently enacted one is good through November 22, virtually guaranteeing that final decisions on budgetary issues won't be made at least until after the elections. One of the bills caught in the gridlock is the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill. Both the House and Senate versions of that measure specify a 4.1 percent average general schedule raise, which would translate into GS raises varying by locality of 4.02-4.87 percent and a pay cap for wage grade employees of 4.21 percent.

FLTCIP open season winding down

With only two months remaining in the open season for the new Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program, about 100,000 eligible individuals have applied, according to the Office of Personnel Management. Officials had not set any goals for sign-ups, although they have noted that private sector employers offering similar programs have average acceptance rates of about 6 percent. The large majority of those applying are expected to be accepted for coverage.

HHC takes a Pie in the Face for Holiday Ball

photos by Staff Sgt. Brent Hunt
Editor, The Voice

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, hosted a pie in your face fest to help raise money for the Family Readiness Group and to help with the cost of the upcoming 704th MI Brigade Holiday Ball.

The bidding started the week before as soldiers bid on their favorite soldier to throw a pie into their face. The highest bidder was awarded the privilege of smacking that person in the face with a pie.

The pie lovers were awarded not only a pie in their face filled with whipped cream, but condiments were included such as relish, ketchup and mustard.

The fundraiser raised \$700.



Sgt. 1st Class Amos Montgomery enjoys morning dessert from Sgt. Robert Grizzle.



Sgt. Patrick Crouch enjoys pie mixed with relish from Spc. David Smith-Barry.



1st Lt. Nikki Smith tries a delicious pie with the help of Sgt. Sharosa Crawford.



1st Sgt. William Bach promises vengeance to HHC soldiers for his piece of the pie.



Capt. Carl Lamar wonders what was put in his pie and why has he started wearing a trash bag to work?



Sgt. Heather George wonders why mustard is in her pie.



VISION STATEMENT

704th Military Intelligence Brigade



Be the premier Army team providing full-spectrum signals intelligence and operational support to warfighters and national command authorities *HERE AND EVERYWHERE.*